

A photograph of a person in a dark jacket and hood pushing a shopping cart filled with various items, including bags and boxes, along a city sidewalk at night. The scene is illuminated by streetlights, and a storefront with a 'QFC' sign is visible in the background. The image is used as a background for a presentation slide.

City of Seattle –Navigation Team & Homelessness Emergency Response

Presenter: Jason Johnson, Director,
City of Seattle Human Services Department

City of Seattle – Navigation Team Background



Navigation Team

Goal: To connect vulnerable people living unsheltered to services & shelter, remove encampments that pose serious public health and safety risks.

Background: Launched in 2017 to address growing unsheltered community, impacts from unmanaged encampments.

Navigation Team is comprised of specially trained police officers, outreach workers, and field coordinators and works closely with service providers & other public agencies.





Multi-Departmental Rules (MDARs)

The Multi-Departmental Rule (MDARs) call for, in some scenarios, to provide at least 72-hour removal notice and advanced outreach to encampments on public property, with offers of shelter and storage of personal items.

In other circumstances, the rules call for the City to remove encampments that pose a hazard or an obstruction to public property without 72-hour notice or advanced outreach.

These rules are designed to balance both the rights of people living unsheltered, with the City's responsibility of maintaining public health and safety.

Often, encampments on WSDOT property fit the criteria for removal and frequently are prioritized for Navigation Team work.



City of Seattle – Navigation Team Prioritization



With an estimated 400 unmanaged encampments in Seattle, the team prioritizes sites for removal that pose the most significant public health and safety concerns.

Public Health & Safety Factors:

- Obstruction to public use (*upper left photo*)
- Hazardous location (vertical drops)
- Exposed to vehicular traffic (roadways)
- Criminality beyond substance abuse
- Large quantities of garbage, debris, waste (*lower photo*)
- Hazards to occupants/community (threats to infrastructure)
- Difficulty in extending emergency services (greenbelts)
- Scheduled construction/work
- Damage to natural environment
- Proximity to schools, hospitals, eldercare facilities

City of Seattle – Navigation Team Partners



Background



Seattle
Human Services



Seattle
Parks & Recreation



Washington State
Department of Transportation



Seattle
Neighborhoods



Seattle Public Utilities

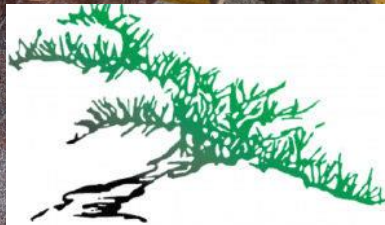
Public Health
Seattle & King County



Seattle
Department of
Transportation



Seattle City Light



Evergreen Treatment
Services

City of Seattle – Removal, Clean-Up Stats, Costs

Since 2017 the City of Seattle has:
Removed early **700 unmanaged** encampments from public property.

Cleaned up nearly **10 million pounds** of garbage, waste, and debris has been by the City from encampments.

Picked up over **145,000 syringes** within encampments.

Navigation Team Outcomes – Shelter & Housing Successes



- The Navigation Team made over **10,000 contacts** with people living unsheltered in 2018, making over **1,300 referrals to shelter** (*figures not de-duplicated*).
- The City made unprecedented investments in new shelter resources last year and re-bid all homeless service provider contracts for the first time in over a decade, with a focus on housing success.
- As a result, the City has seen a **30% increase in exits to permanent housing** in 2018.



Encampment Clean up

WSDOT Maintenance Operations

Pasco Bakotich, State Maintenance Engineer
Dave McCormick, ARA for Maintenance, NW Region
Lance Pascubillo, Maint. Lead-tech, NW Region

Senate Transportation Committee
February 5, 2019

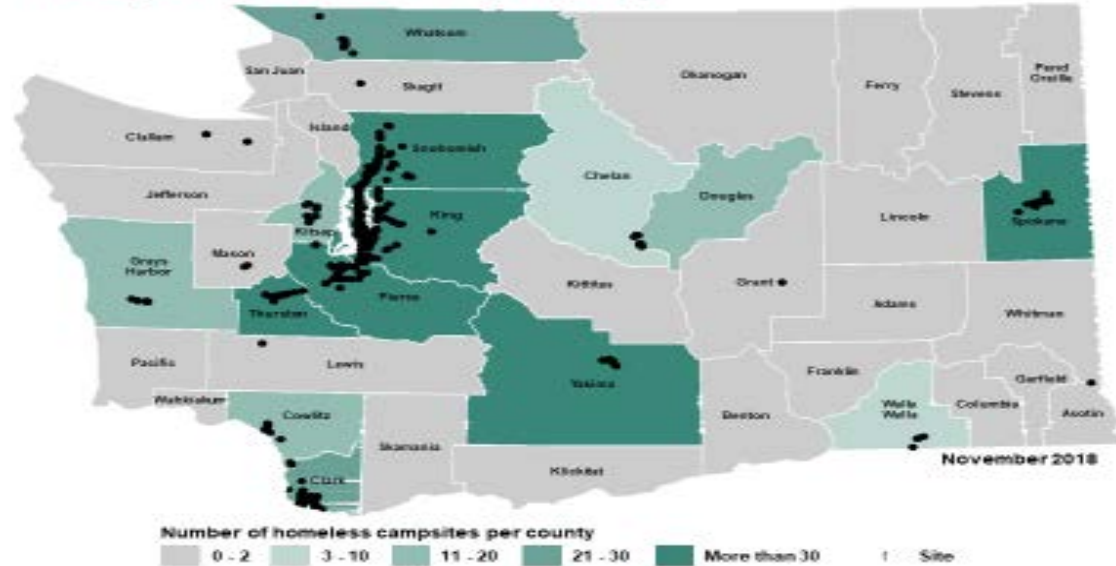
Roger Millar, Secretary of Transportation
Keith Metcalf, Deputy Secretary of Transportation

Encampment Clean up

- Statewide Perspective
- Partnerships and Process
- Doing the work
- Work affected by encampments
- Questions

Encampment Cleanup

Map of Washington state homeless campsites on state property

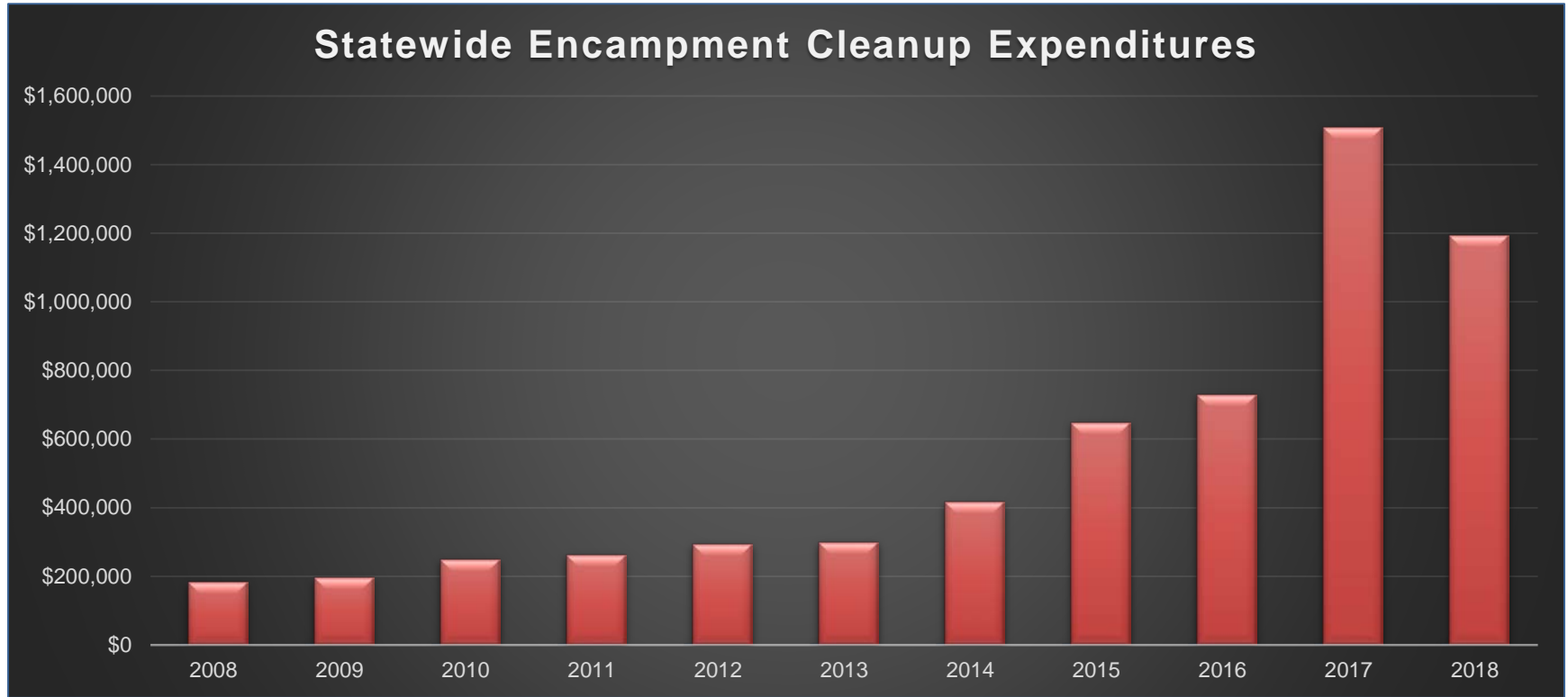


County with largest amount of homeless sites:
King County

Top five counties with most homeless sites:

1. King (610 sites)
2. Clark (155 sites)
3. Snohomish (145 sites)
4. Spokane (87 sites)
5. Pierce (76 sites)

Encampment Cleanup



Partnerships are Critical to Encampment Cleanups

- Process leading up to the decision to clean up a site.
- Local agency engagement / participation
- Social services including health care, housing, food and clothing
- Law enforcement

Encampment Cleanup Posting

City of Seattle

NOTICE/AVISO

ORDER TO REMOVE ALL PERSONAL PROPERTY
ORDEN DE RETIRAR TODOS LOS BIENES PERSONALES

AS OF/ DESDE	TIME/ HORA	LOCATION/ UBICACIÓN
10-6-2015	5:15	Freeway Blvd

Materials in this area are an obstruction of the intended use of this property, are in a hazardous location or present a hazard. This is not an authorized area for storage or shelter. Any materials left here will be removed by the City on or after the date and time posted above, and belongings will be stored for 70 days at no charge.

Los materiales en esta área obstruyen el uso indicado de esta propiedad, se encuentran en una ubicación peligrosa o presentan un riesgo. Esta no es un área autorizada para almacenamiento o refugio. Los materiales después de la fecha y hora indicados serán retirados por la Ciudad a partir de la fecha y hora indicados más arriba, y sus pertenencias se almacenarán por 70 días sin costo alguno.

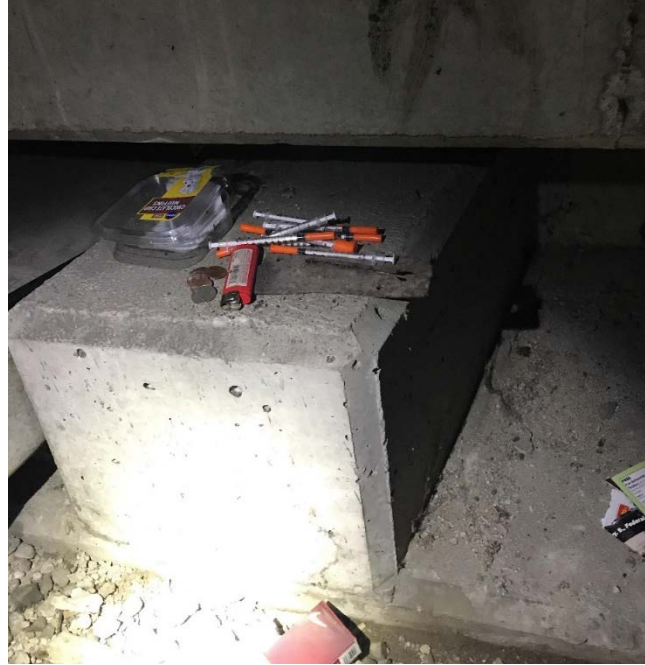
TO RECOVER BELONGINGS CALL:
PARA RECUPERAR SUS Pertenencias, LLAME AL: **206-684-2489**

The City will deliver your belongings to you. Belongings are stored at: 4200 Airport Way South.
La ciudad le entregará sus pertenencias. Las pertenencias se almacenarán en: 4200 Airport Way South.

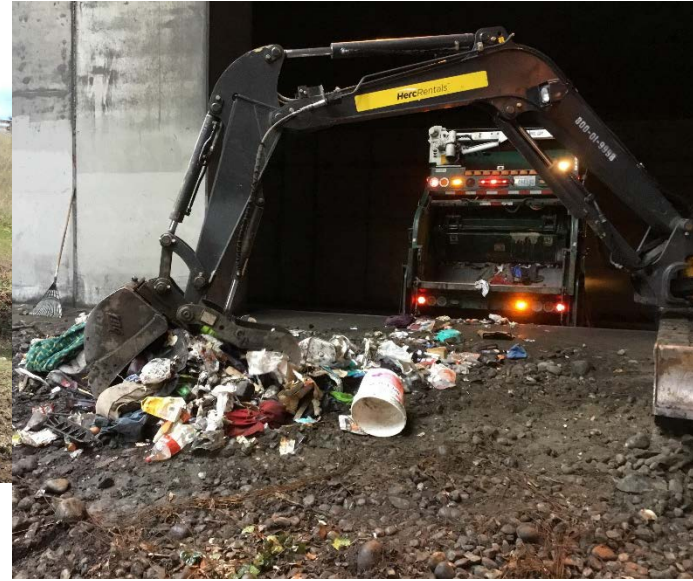
FOR OUTREACH AND HOUSING SUPPORT CALL:
Para asistencia sobre contactar con la comunidad y sobre la vivienda, llame al: **211 or 206-461-3222**



Encampment Cleanup: Safety First



Encampment Cleanup



Encampment Cleanup Risks



Encampment Cleanup

Work affected by encampments



Encampment Cleanup

Work affected by encampments



Questions?

Pasco Bakotich III, P.E.

Director of Maintenance Operations

bakotip@wsdot.wa.gov